

# **ODCP** Legislative Update

## The 84th General Assembly

The second session of the 84th General Assembly was gaveled in on Monday, January 9, 2012. The ODCP Legislative Update is a weekly recap of legislative action relating to drug control and criminal justice issues, the aim of which is to keep you informed of new legislation and any progress it makes toward becoming law.

Please feel free to forward this information to others who may be interested.

## **ODCP Pre-Filed Bills**

The Office of Drug Control Policy has pre-filed a number of bills for consideration during this legislative session. Among those are:

- Expansion of the Controlled Substances list to include newer synthetic cannabinoids and cathinones and giving the Board of Pharmacy authority to temporarily schedule new substances if they pose an imminent danger to the public.
- Removing marijuana and THC from Schedule II and making them Schedule I
  Controlled Substances only. Also removal of all current language that gives the
  Board of Pharmacy the ability to make rules related to the use of marijuana for
  medicinal purposes. This bill contains the same language as HF 183 (see below).

## Introduced in the House

HF 183 An act relating to the control of marijuana, including an effective date provision and providing a penalty. Under this bill, all types of marijuana and tetrahydrocannabinols are classified as schedule I controlled substances. The bill eliminates a provision classifying marijuana used for medicinal purposes, pursuant to rules of the board of pharmacy, as a schedule II controlled substance. The bill strikes references to the authority of the board to establish rules relating to the medicinal use of marijuana including tetrahydrocannabinols naturally contained in a cannabis plant. 1/12/12 re-introduced by Baudler and assigned to subcommittee Sands, Fry and Wolfe.

HF 2036 An act requiring the **drug testing of certain applicants for the family investment program**. The drug testing requirement applies only to an applicant who has been convicted of an offense involving the manufacture, delivery, or possession of a controlled substance, or possession with the intent to manufacture or deliver, or any other offense involving a controlled substance under federal law or under Code chapter 124 (controlled substances), Code chapter 124A (imitation controlled substances), Code chapter 124B (precursor substances), or Code chapter 453B (excise tax on unlawful dealing in certain substances), during the two-year period preceding the date of application. The drug testing involves drug or urine testing and must be completed prior to an applicant receiving assistance. Introduced 1/12/12 by Baudler and referred to Human Resources.

### Introduced in the House, continued

HF 2038 An act requiring random drug testing for recipients of unemployment compensation benefits. New Code section 96.5A establishes a drug testing requirement for individuals receiving unemployment compensation benefits. Code section 96.5 is amended to provide that an individual is disqualified for unemployment compensation benefits if the individual has a confirmed positive drug test which disqualification shall continue until the individual has a negative test result for that drug. 1/12/12 introduced by Iverson and Arnold and referred to Labor.

#### Introduced in the Senate

<u>SF 2009</u> An Act relating to and making an appropriation for emergency medical services training. This **bill transfers \$750,000** from the allocation to the department of public health for the **tobacco use prevention and control initiative** to the appropriation to the department of public health for public protection to be used for emergency medical services training for communities with populations under 9,000 for FY 2012-2013. 1/10/12 Introduced by Hancock and referred to appropriations.

## **Information telephone numbers and web sites**

Legislature Web Site: <a href="www.legis.iowa.gov">www.legis.iowa.gov</a> Daily Legislative Schedules: 515-281-5869

House Switchboard: 515-281-3221 (To Contact Legislators) Senate Switchboard: 515-281-3371 (To Contact Legislators)

Office of Drug Control Policy: 515-725-0300 or www.iowa.gov/odcp

If you have any questions, comments or would like a bill added to the list, please contact Becky Swift at 515-725-0301 or becky.swift@iowa.gov.